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Kim Cameron

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EXAMINER

TIMBLIN, ROBERT M

ART UNIT

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NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

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ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/632,521	Applicant(s) CAMERON ET AL.	
	Examiner ROBERT TIMBLIN	Art Unit 2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 October 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 15-26 and 28-64 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 15-26 and 28-64 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This action corresponds to application 10/632,521 filed on 8/1/2003.

Response to Amendment

Presently, claims 1, 28, 53, and 61 have been amended, claims 65-73 and 80-84 have been cancelled and no claims have been newly added. Accordingly, claims 1-11, 15-26, and 28-64 are pending in the response filed 10/16/2009.

Claim Objections

The previous claim objections have been withdrawn in light of the amendments and Applicants response.

However, in light of further examination, the additional claim objections are made:

Claim 1 is objected to because it recites “data sources connected to an the identity integration system...” in the receiving clause and “update each said of the multiple passwords...” in the last performing clause. Correction to clarify the claim language found in these excerpts is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

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having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-11, 15, 28-30, 51, and 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hollingsworth (U.S. Patent 7,200,864) in view of Hagan et al (U.S. Patent Application 6,734,886, hereinafter ‘Hagan’).

With respect to claim 1, Hollingsworth teaches method, comprising:

outputting a user interface (300) configured to interact with an identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords) to perform collective password management (col. 2 line 54-57 and col. 3 line 52; i.e. universal control of passwords) for multiple user accounts (col. 5 lines 60-67; e.g. a technician’s access to systems 310), each of the multiple user accounts (310) being associated with the single user (335, 330 as well as col. 1 lines 36-39 and 56, and col. 7 lines 58-60; e.g. ...”thus personnel may only access, edit and change the passwords of those programs that have already been preauthorized for them”);

receiving a selection (col. 4 line 35-40) of multiple data sources (315) connected to the identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords) input by the user via the user interface (300), wherein:

each of the multiple data sources (310) corresponds to a different one of said multiple user accounts (310 and 335; i.e. a user-assigned password for a system represents an account);

the identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords) includes a management agent for each of the multiple data sources configured specifically for its respective data source (col. 8 line 8-13; i.e. the adjustment of the secondary programs to allow the universal program to access and change the passwords of such

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secondary programs suggests a description of an agent for the secondary program) to manage data communication between the identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords) and each respective data source (system list 310); and

for at least some of the multiple data sources (figure 3, systems A-E) a management agent for the data source is configured with credentials to perform password management for a corresponding said user account (col. 8 line 10-12);

receiving a new password (362) input by the single user (col. 1 line 56 and col. 2 line 54) via the user interface (300); and

performing an administrative password operation on a multiple passwords (col. 3 line 51-53) each associated with each one of the selected multiple data sources (310) to collectively update each said of the multiple passwords (figure 3 and col. 37-40) to the new password (362), wherein the password operation is performed using the identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords).

Although Hollingsworth teaches outputting a user interface (300) configured to interact with an identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords) to perform collective password management (col. 2 line 54-57 and col. 3 line 52; i.e. universal control of passwords), Hollingsworth does not appear to expressly teach outputting, in a user interface configured to verify an identity of a single user for access to an identity integration system, one or more of a plurality of questions having answers that do not involve a user name or password of the single user; if correct answers to the one or more questions are received via the user interface, outputting the user the user interface (300).

Hagan, however, teaches outputting, in a user interface configured to verify an identity of a single user for access to an identity integration system (col. 10, lines 40-42); “the user is challenged by the Certificate Authority server 92 to answer a set of identifying questions), one or more of a plurality of questions (col. 10 lines 41-42; Identifying questions) having answers that do not involve a user name or password of the single user (col. 10 lines 12-13; e.g. answers supplied by the user) if correct answers to the one or more questions are received via the user interface, outputting a user interface (col. 10 lines 44-45; e.g. if enough questions are answered correctly, the User is permitted to reset the password) for user authentication and password resetting.

Accordingly, in the same field of endeavor, (i.e. authentication), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because the authentication including identifying questions and answers as taught by Hagan would have provided Hollingsworth with a more secure access system. Further, the teachings of Hagan would have given Hollingsworth a more user friendly system by reducing the time needed to deal with password issues when a user forgets a password (needed by Hollingsworth, col. 1 lines 32-35).

With respect to claim 2, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

determining an identity of the single user (col. 2 line 1; e.g. a user log in), wherein the multiple data sources are associated with (col. 7 lines 58-60) the identity (335); and

querying the identity integration system to find the multiple data sources associated with the identity (col. 4 line 26-30; e.g. a list of programs to be controlled by a user).

With respect to claim 3, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the password operation comprises updating one or more passwords associated with the multiple data sources using joined objects across the multiple data sources, wherein the joined objects are stored in the identity integration system (figure 3, 315).

With respect to claim 4, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 3, wherein some of the multiple passwords are updated to new passwords that differ from each other (335; e.g. 'monkey1' and 'kitten2').

With respect to claim 5, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 3, wherein each of the multiple passwords is updated to the same password (335, e.g. 'monkey1').

With respect to claim 6, Hollingsworth teaches, the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the password operation comprises one of changing, setting and resetting the password (col. 3 line 51-53).

With respect to claim 7, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein each of the multiple data sources differ from others of the multiple data sources with respect to at

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least one of a protocol, a platform, a format, and a data transmission medium for data storage (col. 1 line 44-50).

With respect to claim 8, Hollingsworth further teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein each of the multiple data sources differs in a connection to the identity integration system with respect to at least one of a protocol, a platform, a format, and a data transmission medium for data storage (figure 2).

With respect to claim 9, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein each of the multiple data sources uses a different password management function (col. 3 line 1-5; e.g. each program having its own specific password).

With respect to claim 10, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 9, wherein the identity integration system performs password management for each of the multiple data sources (col. 1 line 36-38).

With respect to claim 11, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein for at least some of the multiple data sources the identity integration system stores integrated identity information to perform password management (col. 1 line 55).

With respect to claim 15, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 1, further comprising using the identity integration system to produce a list of user accounts associated

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with the multiple data sources, wherein the user accounts on the list are eligible for password management (figure 3).

With respect to claim 28, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the interface is secured using a security group (col. 7 line 58-60; e.g. authorized personnel).

With respect to claim 29, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 28, wherein the interface is secured using a security group that allows both searching for a connector object associated with a data source and setting a password for an object in the data source, wherein a connector object represents at least part of the data source in the identity integration system (col. 1 line 61-67).

With respect to claim 30, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein an identity of the single user associated with the multiple data sources provides a security credential for performing a password operation (col. 2 line 1).

With respect to claim 51, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the password operation further comprises updating passwords in both secure and non-secure data sources within the multiple data sources (col. 7 line 55-60).

With respect to claim 52, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the password operation further comprises updating passwords over both secure and non-secure connections to the multiple data sources (col. 3 line 1-15).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 16-20, 22-26, 31-50 and 53-64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hollingsworth and Stone et al. ('Stone' hereafter, U.S. Patent Application 2007/0094392) and further in view of Hagan.

With respect to claim 16, Hollingsworth does not expressly teach web application for password management.

Stone, however, teaches a web application for password management (0040) for the entry attribute data for administering resources over a network.

In the same field of endeavor, (i.e. user access), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because Stone would have given Hollingsworth a web application for controlling separate and multiple systems (See Hollingsworth, figs 1-2) for the benefit of enabling the system manager to efficiently manage multiple systems. Such a benefit

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would have been realized when Hollingsworth discusses the use of their system in a network environment (e.g. col. 5 line 20-25 and figures 1-2, Hollingsworth).

With respect to claim 17, Stone further teaches the method as recited in claim 16, wherein the selecting multiple data sources and the performing a password operation are performed on a website generated by the web application (0077).

With respect to claim 18, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 17, wherein the web application accepts a password credential from the single user to perform the password operation (figure 3, 366 and 362).

With respect to claim 19, Hollingsworth does not expressly teach wherein the web application verifies an identity of the single user by asking the user questions, wherein if answers provided by the user are correct then the web application performs the password operation using the identity of a privileged user account.

Stone, however, teaches wherein the web application verifies an identity of a user by asking the user questions (figure 20, s104), wherein if answers provided by the user are correct (5106) then the web application performs the password operation using the identity of a privileged user account (figure 20).

In the same field of endeavor, (i.e. user access), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the

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teachings of the cited references because the above limitations would further enable Hollingsworth's system to further verify a user.

With respect to claim 20, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 17, further comprising using the identity integration system to produce a list of user accounts displayable on the website, wherein the user accounts are associated with the multiple data sources (figure 3).

With respect to claim 22, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 17, further comprising communicatively coupling the identity integration system with the web application using an interface (figure 2).

With respect to claim 23, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 22, wherein the interface is publicly available (col. 2 line 1-2; e.g. a user needing to log into the program describes that any user can be available to the system).

With respect to claim 24, Stone further teaches the method as recited in claim 22, wherein the interface allows a web application designer to customize the web application (0021).

With respect to claim 25, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 22, wherein the interface includes password management functions (350).

With respect to claim 26, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 22, wherein the interface is capable of being changed for an improved version of the interface that adds more password management functions while using the same web application and the same identity integration system (col. 8 line 45-46).

With respect to claim 31, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 17, wherein the web application produces a list of accounts associated with a user (figure 3, 315).

With respect to claim 32, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 31, wherein the web application lists only accounts eligible for password management (figure 3, 315).

With respect to claim 33 Hollingsworth does not appear to teach the method as recited in claim 17, wherein the web application adopts a web application behavior based on a configuration setting.

Stone, however, teaches the method as recited in claim 17, wherein the web application adopts a web application behavior based on a configuration setting (0042, (3)) for user preferences.

Accordingly, in the same field of endeavor, (i.e. password), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because Stone would have given Hollingsworth a user

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profile for the benefit of improved security by identifying a user, identifying permissions and keeping track of a users associated resources.

With respect to claim 34, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach the method as recited in claim 33, wherein the 15 configuration setting is stored in a configuration file (Stone, 0042; e.g. a profile of a user).

With respect to claim 35 Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 17, wherein the web application checks if one of the data sources is communicating before updating a password associated with the data source (col. 4 line 28-29; e.g. listing of the accessible programs).

With respect to claim 36 Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 35, wherein the updating comprises one of changing and setting the password (col. 3 line 51-52).

With respect to claim 37, Hollingsworth does not appear to teach checking if a connection to one of the data sources is secure before updating a password associated with the data source.

Stone, however, teaches the method as recited in claim 17, wherein the web application checks if a connection to one of the data sources is secure before updating a password associated with the data source (0022, 0048) for supporting a secure transmission.

In the same field of endeavor, (i.e. password management), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because Stone would have provided a secure information transmission means for the benefit of added security while managing passwords.

With respect to claim 38, Hollingsworth teaches the method as recited in claim 37, wherein the updating comprises one of changing and setting the password (col. 3 line 51-52).

With respect to claim 39, Hollingsworth does not appear to teach displaying a status for the password operation.

Stone, however, teaches the method as recited in claim 1, further comprising displaying a status for the password operation (0106, 0124) for acknowledging an update.

In the same field of endeavor, (i.e. password management) it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because Stones teaching would have given a user of Hollingsworth a notification that an password change was acknowledged for assurance of a password operation.

With respect to claim 40, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach the method as recited in claim 39, further comprising displaying the status on a webpage (Stone, 0077).

With respect to claim 41, Hollingsworth does not appear to teach auditing the password operation.

Stone, however, teaches the method as recited in claim 1, further comprising auditing the password operation (0028; i.e. success/error logs).

In the same field of endeavor, (i.e. password management) it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because Stones teaching would have given Hollingsworth the ability to detect invalid users for purposes of mitigating intrusion.

With respect to claim 42, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach the method as recited in claim 41, further comprising maintaining a password management history for the password operation (Stone, 0028; i.e. archiving the logs).

With respect to claim 43, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach the method as recited in claim 42, further comprising keeping the password management history in a connector space object, wherein the connector space object is included in the identity integration system (Stone, 0025).

With respect to claim 44, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach the method as recited in claim 42, wherein the password management history includes a tracking identifier to an audit record of the password operation (Stone, 0028).

With respect to claim 45, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach the method as recited in claim 41, further comprising maintaining a repository of audit records for password operations performed using the identity integration system (Stone, 0082, drawing reference 42).

With respect to claim 46, Stone teaches the method as recited in claim 45, wherein an audit 10 record for a password operation includes at least one of an identifier of a single user associated with the password operation, a tracking identifier to a web application initiating the password operation, a tracking identifier to a connector object associated with the password operation, a tracking identifier to a management agent associated with the password operation, a password operation identifier, a password operation status, a date, and a time (0028, 0082).

With respect to claim 47, Stone teaches the method as recited in claim 1, further comprising associating custom logic (24, 0028, 0124) with a password operation, wherein the custom logic is executed after the password operation is performed (0052, 0074) for providing operations concerning a password operation.

Accordingly, in the same field of endeavor, (i.e. password management), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because Stone's logic would have provided password operation assurance and credibility information for a more secure accessing system.

With respect to claim 48, Stone teaches the method as recited in claim 47, wherein the custom logic sends an email (0106 and 0085).

With respect to claim 49, Stone teaches the method as recited in claim 47, wherein the custom logic logs password management activity (0028).

With respect to claim 50, Stone teaches the method as recited in claim 47, wherein the custom logic performs a password operation on a subsequent data source not connected to the identity integration system (figure 5).

With respect to claim 53, Hollingsworth teaches An apparatus comprising:

a processor (col. 4 line 20-25); and

a user identifier to find user identity information (col. 2 line 1-3 e.g. a login) in an identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords), that corresponds to a single user (335,330 as well as col. 1 lines 36-39 and 55; e.g. a user can change passwords, and col. 7 lines 58-60; e.g. ...”thus personnel may only access, edit and change the passwords of those programs that have already been preauthorized for them”) wherein:

identity information query logic to search information in the identity integration system for accounts associated with the user (col. 4 line 25-30 and figure 3; i.e. listing the systems accessible by a user);

an account lister to display (300) the accounts associated with the user (figure 3, 310);

an account selector (col. 2 line 25-27) to designate at least some of the displayed accounts (300, fig. 3) for password management (300);

a password inputter (362) to determine a new password (365) input by the single user to associate with each designated accounts (figure 3, systems marked by 'X'); and

a password manager (col. 1 line 51; e.g. a control program to change passwords) to collectively manage passwords (col. 4 line 37-40) for the designated accounts (figure 3) that correspond to the single user (335,330 as well as col. 1 lines 36-39 and 55, and col. 7 lines 58-60; e.g. ...”thus personnel may only access, edit and change the passwords of those programs that have already been preauthorized for them”), systems marked by 'X') by requesting an update of a password associated with each designated figure 3, systems marked by 'X') account to the new password (365), responsive to the user input (col. 4 line 30-40).

Hollingsworth does not expressly teach web application for password management.

Stone, however, teaches a web application for password management (0040) for the entry attribute data for administering resources over a network.

In the same field of endeavor, (i.e. user access), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because Stone would have given Hollingsworth a web application for controlling separate and multiple systems (See Hollingsworth, figs 1-2) for the benefit of enabling the system manager to efficiently manage multiple systems. Such a benefit would have been realized when Hollingsworth discusses the use of their system in a network environment (e.g. col. 5 line 20-25 and figures 1-2, Hollingsworth).

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Hollingsworth and Stone do not expressly the update performed if correct answers to one or more questions are received via a user interface that are output in an event of a lost password to access the web application.

Hagan, however, teaches the update performed if correct answers to one or more questions are received via a user interface that are output in an event of a lost password to access the web application (col. 10 lines 39-56) for user authentication and password resetting.

Accordingly, in the same field of endeavor, (i.e. authentication), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because the authentication including identifying questions and answers as taught by Hagan would have provided Hollingsworth and Stone with a more secure access system. Further, the teachings of Hagan would have given Hollingsworth a more user friendly system by reducing the time needed to deal with password issues when a user forgets a password (needed by Hollingsworth, col. 1 lines 32-35).

With respect to claim 54, Hollingsworth teaches the apparatus as recited in claim 53, wherein the identity integration system connects with diverse data sources, each data source having a different function for using password security (col. 3 line 1-5; e.g. each program having its own specific password).

With respect to claim 55, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach the apparatus as recited in claim 53, further comprising an account status display to show selected accounts and a connection status of each account (Stone, 0091).

With respect to claim 56, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach the apparatus as recited in claim 53, further comprising a password management status display to display a password management operation status for each account (Stone, 0106, 0124).

With respect to claim 57, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach the apparatus as recited in claim 53, further comprising a status checker to verify connectivity and security of a connection between an account and the identity integration system (Stone, 0022, 0048).

With respect to claim 58, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach the apparatus as recited in claim 53, further comprising a configuration reader to obtain behavior settings for the web application (Stone, 0042).

With respect to claim 59, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach teaches the apparatus as recited in claim 53, further comprising a custom logic executor to perform custom logic associated with a password management operation (Stone, 0024, receiver 28).

With respect to claim 60, Hollingsworth teaches the apparatus as recited in claim 53, wherein the account lister lists only accounts eligible for password management (figure 3 and col. 4 line 26-30) and does not list accounts that are not eligible for password management (col. 7 lines 58-60; e.g. the personnel may only access, edit, and change the passwords of those

programs that have already been preauthorized for them and further fig. 3 listing the programs associated with the control system).

With respect to claim 61, Hollingsworth teaches an apparatus comprising a processor coupled to memory, the memory storing one or more modules executable via the processor to implement:

an interface for coupling an identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords);

logic for communicating with the identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords), wherein: the identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords) is capable of collectively updating a password (col. 4 line 37-40) on multiple data sources (310) that use various functions of password updating (col. 3 line 1-5) responsive to input of a single new password (365) by a single user (335,330 as well as col. 1 lines 36-39 and 55, and col. 7 lines 58-60; e.g. ...”thus personnel may only access, edit and change the passwords of those programs that have already been preauthorized for them”);

each said data source (systems 310) includes a user account (310; systems A-E) that corresponds to the single user (335,330 as well as col. 1 lines 36-39 and 55, and col. 7 lines 58-60; e.g. ...”thus personnel may only access, edit and change the passwords of those programs that have already been preauthorized for them”), each said data source includes a user account that corresponds to the single user;

the identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords) includes a management agent (col. 8 line 10-13) for each of the multiple data sources (315) to manage data communication between the identity integration system (col. 2 line 54-56; e.g. universal access program for controlling passwords) and each respective data source (315);

for at least some of the multiple data sources a management agent for the data source is configured to obtain credentials from the single user to perform password management (col. 8 line 10-12), so that the credentials are not stored beforehand by the identity integration system (drawing reference 362; e.g. a new password is interpreted as not being stored beforehand);

logic for searching for objects in the identity integration system (col. 4 line 25-30 and figure 3; i.e. listing the systems accessible by a user); and

logic for checking a connection status between the identity integration system and a data source (col. 4 line 26-30; i.e. listing accessible programs).

Hollingsworth does not expressly teach web application for password management.

Stone, however, teaches a web application for password management (0040) for the entry attribute data for administering resources over a network.

In the same field of endeavor, (i.e. user access), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because Stone would have given Hollingsworth a web application for controlling separate and multiple systems (See Hollingsworth, figs 1-2) for the benefit of enabling the system manager to efficiently manage multiple systems. Such a benefit

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would have been realized when Hollingsworth discusses the use of their system in a network environment (e.g. col. 5 line 20-25 and figures 1-2, Hollingsworth).

Hollingsworth and Stone do not appear to teach the identity integration system including a lost password feature that is selectable to provide one or more of a plurality of questions having answers that were previously supplied by the single user.

Hagan, however, teaches the identity integration system including a lost password feature that is selectable to provide one or more of a plurality of questions having answers that were previously supplied by the single user (col. 10 lines 39-56) for user authentication and password resetting.

Accordingly, in the same field of endeavor, (i.e. authentication), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because the authentication including identifying questions and answers as taught by Hagan would have provided Hollingsworth and Stone with a more secure access system. Further, the teachings of Hagan would have given Hollingsworth a more user friendly system by reducing the time needed to deal with password issues when a user forgets a password (needed by Hollingsworth, col. 1 lines 32-35).

With respect to claim 62, Hollingsworth and Stone further teach the apparatus as recited in claim 61, further comprising logic for checking security of a connection between the identity integration system and a data source (Stone, 0022 and 0048).

With respect to claim 63, Hollingsworth teaches the apparatus as recited in claim 61, further comprising logic to change a password associated with the data source (col. 3 line 50-53).

With respect to claim 64, Hollingsworth teaches the apparatus as recited in claim 61, further comprising logic to set a password associated with the data source (Hollingsworth, col. 3 line 51).

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hollingsworth and Hagan as applied to claim 1 above in view of Bush et al. ('Bush' hereafter) (U.S. Patent Application 2002/0083012).

With respect to claim 21, Hollingsworth and Hagan fail to teach a help desk to at least assist in the performing a password operation.

Bush, however, teaches a help desk to at least assist in the performing a password operation (0024, i.e. sending a password by telephone to the user) for assisting in new user registration.

In the same field of endeavor, (i.e. password management), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because Bush's system would have given Hollinger and Stone's system a more user friendly and efficient method of helping a user to establish an account.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 53, and 61 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Further, while Examiner notes that Hollingsworth does not teach the lost password operation as claimed above and argued on pages 18-21, Examiner submits that Hollingsworth in combination with Hagan teach this aforementioned aspect as concluded in the rejection above.

Accordingly, the arguments are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following are noted to explicitly recite a lost password operation as claimed:

U.S. Patent Application 2004/0030932 to Juels et al. The subject matter disclosed therein pertains to the pending claims (i.e. see paragraph 0152).

U.S. Patent Application 2003/0051164 to Patton. The subject matter disclosed therein pertains to the pending claims (i.e. see paragraph 0077).

U.S. Patent 7,234,160 issued to Vogel et al. The subject matter disclosed therein pertains to the pending claims (i.e. see fig. 8).

U.S. Patent 7,092,915 issued to Best et al. The subject matter disclosed therein pertains to the pending claims (i.e. managing multiple accounts associated with a single user – see Fig. 5).

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT TIMBLIN whose telephone number is (571)272-5627. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John R. Cottingham can be reached on 571-272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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/ROBERT TIMBLIN/

Examiner, Art Unit 2167

/John R. Cottingham/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2167